

## Today's Topics:

Aircraft headsets (2 msgs)  
ARRL and User Fees  
ATV Balloon Landing (2 msgs)  
Field Day  
Field Day... OK... A proposal:  
Help with TA-32jr  
Length of dots and dashes in Morse Code  
long wave BBS  
Part 15  
Tower Question

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Date: 11 Oct 89 15:46:00 GMT

From: silver!commgrp@iuvox.cs.indiana.edu

Subject: Aircraft headsets

In article <8910080708.AA18615@ucbvax.Berkeley.EDU> IZZYH79@OAC.  
UCLA.EDU writes:

>I have recently bought the David Clark H10-20 aviation  
>headset. Has anyone had any experience in using this  
>type of headset for ham use, ie. building an adapter for  
>use with handy talkies or HF gear? ^^^^^^^^^^^  
>^^  
> Thank you. Arun WC6V

The standard aircraft radio microphone circuit requires a carbon microphone, i.e., a variable resistance. True carbon mics have several disadvantages including poor audio quality; no self-respecting ham would use one. Modern aircraft mics are "simulated carbon", i.e., they are electret or dynamic mics with a preamplifier circuit which simulates the electrical characteristics of a carbon mic and is powered by the microphone bias current from the radio. High-quality simulated-carbon mics which don't work with ham rigs are available cheap at hamfests. See Ham Radio magazine, October 1981 p. 18. for a circuit for adapting them to typical ham transceivers. (Copy for SASE.)

Unmodified Plantronics StarSet headsets will work with the Icom IC-2AT family of transceivers; just add appropriate connectors and series PTT switch. This has been published in most ham magazines.

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Frank Reid W9MKV reid@gold.bacs.indiana.edu  
P.O. Box 5283

Bloomington IN 47407

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Date: 11 Oct 89 16:43:32 GMT  
From: agate!bionet!uwm.edu!ux1.cso.uiuc.edu!ux1.cso.uiuc.edu!  
phil@ucbvax.Berkeley.EDU  
Subject: Aircraft headsets

Can someone who is into aviation (and ham radio, too) give a summary of the available aviation headsets? I'm personally interested in having one that is very comfortable to wear for long periods of time (I suspect pilots have to some times) AND very good noise blocking on the earphones (yes, TWO) and noise cancelling on the boom mike. Included should be what the prospects are of modifying them for use with ham gear (HT's, mobile rigs, base rigs, etc).

--Phil howard-- <phil@ux1.cso.uiuc.edu>  
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Date: 11 Oct 89 16:43:35 GMT  
From: cs.utexas.edu!uwm.edu!ux1.cso.uiuc.edu!ux1.cso.uiuc.edu!phil@tut.cis.ohio-state.edu  
Subject: ARRL and User Fees

> Let's not be too hasty here. None of the proposals I've seen involve a  
> HUGE fee. I personally support the concept of a license fee. A license  
> fee could do two things for us. First, it could eliminate the excuse  
> of no money for enforcement that the FCC uses for not helping us  
> enforce our rules. Second, we can quite legitimately state that we  
> are paying a fair price for our access and therefore we cannot be  
> denied access to our bands without due process. In other words,  
> we'd have a much better argument the next time someone makes a grab  
> for a band.  
>  
> As it is, the ARRL's kneejerk reaction against user fees just  
> perpetuates the stereotype of hams as beggars. I used to run into  
> that stereotype when I was promoting the service to TEMA and FEMA officials.  
> One comment heard over and over was "Every time I've tried to work  
> with hams, they've come running with their hands out". Maybe we  
> ought to try and mitigate this stereotype and help pay our way.  
>  
> John De Armond, WD4QOC

John, I agree with you 100%

I'd like to add that the idea of all the fee money going directly to the Federal treasury may not be that bad of an idea. If the FCC keeps the money, then we don't have as much control over it as we would if Congress allocates it. Congress SHOULD ordinarily allocate back to the FCC all of the funds the FCC collects in all its processing. We should expect the fees (for all services) to let the FCC pay their own way. Then if the FCC is FAILING to meet its obligations, Congress can put more pressure on them to do so.

The processing fees can also allow a resumption of certain kinds of more costly processing such as vanity callsigns and club stations.

I would like to stress that one particular type of processing needs to continue to be ZERO COST, and that is filing a change of station location and/or mailing address. It would not only be unfair to people who have to move more often, but it would be important for the FCC and hams to make sure the FCC records and database is kept up to date. If there was a cost to file a change of address, some people would find excuses and reasons to avoid filing the change just to avoid the costs. Too many people don't file them now as it is; why make it worse.

And a license fee would probably be a better filter to keep out the riff-raff than that other method :-)

--Phil howard-- <phil@ux1.cso.uiuc.edu>

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Date: 11 Oct 89 16:43:38 GMT

From: agate!bionet!uwm.edu!ux1.cso.uiuc.edu!ux1.cso.uiuc.edu!uicsrd.csrduiuc.edu!  
look@ucbvax.Berkeley.EDU

Subject: ATV Balloon Landing

~r atv.txt

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Date: 11 Oct 89 16:43:41 GMT

From: cs.utexas.edu!uwm.edu!ux1.cso.uiuc.edu!ux1.cso.uiuc.edu!  
uicsrd.csrduiuc.edu!look@tut.cis.ohio-state.edu

Subject: ATV Balloon Landing

The ATV balloon package was found intact and still operating in a soybean field five miles east of Lebanon, Indiana. The package was found by the Indianapolis fox-hunters who had been near that area. Assisting were John Huisinga KA9YPK and Tim O'Connor KA9SZY in a chase plane. The package was picked up forty minutes after landing. The only damage was the dislocation

of the mirror used to provide downward views to the camera.

Anyone who taped the flight is asked to contact :

look@uicsrd.csrd.uiuc.edu

or

Mark Garrett KA9SZX

513 Jackson

Champaign, IL 61821

or

K9CW PBBS (QSL)

Video was recieved as far away as West Virginia and southern Canada and fifteen miles east of DesMoines, Iowa. The 42 milliwatt signal of the 2 meter beacon was copied in Kansas City. The package achieved an altitude of at least 114,700 feet and traveled down range at speeds up to 125 mph.

More information and photos will be available in an upcoming Amatuer Television Quarterly magazine.

-Steve Look  
KA9SZW

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Date: 11 Oct 89 16:34:13 GMT  
From: gem.mps.ohio-state.edu!ginosko!cs.utexas.edu!ut-emx!oo7@tut.cis.ohio-state.edu (Your Tax Dollars At Work)  
Subject: Field Day

phil@ux1.cso.uiuc.edu says:

>>>The problem with the Christmas to New Years week for me is that I am usually  
>>>out of town visiting relatives and other holiday related stuff like that.  
>>>Although it is not the case for me usually, lots of people are out of town  
>>>visiting on the Thanksgiving day weekend as well.

... which is (usually) also the weekend of one of the biggest contests of the year (CQWW) - and that doesn't stop the enthusiasts from taking part.

Besides, Christmas is just when the supposed enemy will attack, with the whole of the western world lying comatose in their chairs, their only sign of life being an occasional gentle burp - we ought to be prepared.

Derek Wills (AA5BT, G3NMX)  
Department of Astronomy, University of Texas,

Austin TX 78712. (512-471-1392)  
oo7@astro.as.utexas.edu

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"Hold this feedline", said Tom, coaxingly.

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Date: 11 Oct 89 16:43:28 GMT  
From: gem.mps.ohio-state.edu!uakari.primate.wisc.edu!uwm.edu!ux1.cso.uiuc.edu!  
ux1.cso.uiuc.edu!phil@tut.cis.ohio-state.edu  
Subject: Field Day... OK... A proposal:

> > Who should be the designated person?  
> W1AW, who else?? I think anticipating an event like this would also  
> serve to shore-up organization within clubs and individuals. I would  
> personally like to know that a friend would call me immediately if  
> he heard the announcement first. This just might tighten us all up  
> just a bit.....

Now that I asked, and now that at least one answer has arrived, I'll toss  
out what I was thinking of and see who likes it or hates it.

One of the things that would be needed is VERY FAST dissemination of the  
announcement of the simulated emergency preparedness exercise. In a real  
emergency how would we hear about it? For one thing, the news media would  
be heavily involved. We need to get the news media going on it. The idea  
I was thinking of was to ask that none other than the President of the United  
States (who is afterall Commander-in-Chief of the Armed Forces) be the one to  
decide when and make the announcement. It could be suggested that he might  
tag the announcement at the end of any major media speech just as means of  
getting the word out in a way that would approximately match a real life  
emergency. It might take some major begging to get him to do it, or maybe  
it would be easy, BUT JUST IMAGINE THE MEDIA AWARENESS as a result !!!

--Phil howard-- <phil@ux1.cso.uiuc.edu>

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Date: 11 Oct 89 00:29:24 GMT  
From: hpda!hpcupt1!holly@ucbvax.Berkeley.EDU (Jim Hollenback)  
Subject: Help with TA-32jr

I am thinking of putting up a Mosley TA-32 jr. antenna. I was wondering  
if anyone on the net has experience with this antenna. I would appreciate  
comments on the antenna and installation. It seems that this antenna is  
small enough to be used with a TV antenna mast and rotor.

73's  
Jim, WA6SDM  
WA6SDM @ WB6ASR  
holly@hpcupt1.hp.com

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Date: 6 Oct 89 19:29:15 GMT  
From: amdahl!pacbell!sactoh0!unify!csusac!mmsac!david@ames.arc.nasa.gov (David L. Kensiski)  
Subject: Length of dots and dashes in Morse Code

In message <1886@dover.sps.mot.com>, turner@dover.sps.mot.com (Robert Turner) writes:

> dot = 1 time unit  
> dash = 3 time units                      My guess for the following  
> intra-letter = 3 time units  
> intra-word = 6 time units

Based on some ARRL manual I read long ago, your dot, dash and intra-letter timing right. The intra word is supposed to be 7 units. Also, the intra-unit time (between dits and dahs) is supposed to be 1 unit.

--  
David L. Kensiski, KB6HCN              Martin Marietta Data Systems  
Software Engineer                      1540 River Park Drive, Suite 213  
Phone: (916) 929-8844                  Sacramento, CA 95815  
UUCP: sun!sacto!mmsac!david          INTERNET: mmsac!david@sacto.West.Sun.COM

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Date: 11 Oct 89 18:17:48 GMT  
From: suns.UMD.EDU!jph@umd5.umd.edu (J. Patrick Harrington)  
Subject: long wave BBS

For those interested in longwave radio (below 550 KHz), there is now a computer bulletin board devoted to this topic. It is ...

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---- The LongWave DataBase System (LWDBS) ----  
PO Box 10116, Arlington, VA 22210  
Phone: 703-528-7753  
Speed: 300/1200/2400 baud  
Protocol: 8 data bits, 1 stop bit, No parity.

Schedule: 24 hrs/day, 7 days/week.

Sysop: Lynn C. Ashley, Jr.

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It is just getting started, so many of the projected data files are not yet operational. However, the message system is running, as well as some lists of publications, vendors, etc.

Anyone with an interest in longwave radio is invited to call. This includes non-directional beacons, LowFERS, LORAN & Omega, etc., but remember that this board is for \*long\* wave interests only.

Pat Harrington  
jph@astro.umd.edu

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Date: 11 Oct 89 18:19:49 GMT

From: suns.UMD.EDU!jph@umd5.umd.edu (J. Patrick Harrington)

Subject: Part 15

While on the topic of longwaves, let me advertise a bit. There are doubtless other lurkers out there who, like myself, are interested in many aspects of radio. We would like to transmitt but have not become hams because, while the written exam is a piece of cake, we just can't find the time to memorize the %\$#!& Morse Code. While waiting for reform, don't be idle. You \*can\* transmitt without \*any\* license under part 15 of the FCC regulations. And one of the best parts of the spectrum to do this is 160 to 190 KHz, sometimes called the 1750 meter band. Here you can use up to 1 watt power and an antenna up to 15 meters long. (You really have to use every centimeter of that 15 meters, since this is still less than 1/100 of a wavelength!) This last year I have been running a beacon which has been heard out to 100 miles. (As a fringe benefit, I now know enough code to recognize my own beacon - at 7 wpm!) This is with a less than ideal antenna on my roof in a metropolitan area - with a better situation, ranges of hundreds of miles are possible. There are no commercial rigs, so you make everything yourself. (Or adapt something - I use a CB radio with SSB capability into a homebrew transverter to transmitt voice.) Such stations are known as LowFERS (Low Frequency Experimental Radio Stations).

Another Part 15 opening for those who want to mess about is the bit of spectrum from 1620 to 1705 KHz. Over the entire range from 510 KHz to 1705 KHz you can transmitt without license using up to 1/10 watt and an antenna no longer than 3 meters. Since the AM broadcasters have not yet moved into the new 1600-1705 region, it is dead quiet up there. Since a 3 meter antenna at 1680 KHz is more efficient than a 15 meter one at 185 KHz, this partly compensates for the reduced power. Once again, distances of

hundreds of miles have been achieved.

There are no restrictions on \*what\* you transmitt. CW, voice, RTTY, packet, encrypted RTTY, pizza orders, music ....

Of course you will not DX the world. But what does that mean with the communications links today? A radio magazine was highly amused recently when some innocent wrote in asking if there was a prize for 'working all states' on his cellular phone. What I like about that story is that it is not at all clear who is pulling who's leg. DX with 1/10 of a watt, your final amp a transistor without so much as a heat sink, no pileups - it has it's attractions.

Pat Harrington  
jph@astro.umd.edu

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Date: 11 Oct 89 14:21:24 GMT  
From: gem.mps.ohio-state.edu!uakari.primate.wisc.edu!larry!sde@tut.cis.ohio-state.edu (Scott Ellington)  
Subject: Tower Question

Does anyone out there know of a commercial tower which is free standing, non crank-up, reasonably priced, 60-70 feet high, and can handle a 10 square foot wind load at 40 psf?

Scott K9MA  
sde@larry.sal.wisc.edu

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End of INFO-HAMS Digest V89 Issue #756  
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